



FEED THE FUTURE E-NEWSLETTER

ISSUE # 1

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Feed the Future (FTF) is the U.S. government's global hunger and food security initiative. This newsletter is designed to inform development partners and stakeholders about the U.S. government's efforts to address the underlying causes of hunger and food insecurity. Please visit www.feedthefuture.gov for more information.

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WHAT IS FEED THE FUTURE?

Feed the Future (FTF) is the United States government's global hunger and food security initiative through which the U.S. works with partner countries, development partners, and other stakeholders to sustainably tackle the root causes of global poverty and hunger.

Feed the Future stems from the 2009 G8 Summit in L'Aquila, Italy where global leaders committed to "act with the scale and urgency needed to achieve sustainable global food security." At L'Aquila, President Obama's pledge of at least \$3.5 billion for agricultural development and food security over three years helped to leverage and align more than \$18.5 billion from other donors in support of a common approach. The principles of this approach are known as the Rome Principles and guide Feed the Future:

- Invest in country-owned plans
- Strengthen strategic coordination
- Ensure a comprehensive approach
- Leverage the benefits of multilateral institutions
- Deliver on sustained and accountable commitments

Through *Feed the Future*, we will see the future by supporting partner countries develop their own agriculture and food security plans; *feed the future* through sustainable and strategic investments in agriculture and nutrition enabling countries to improve the availability, access and utilization of food for their own citizens; and *change the future* by increasing incomes for millions of the developing world's most vulnerable people and reducing the number of stunted and underweight children by millions.

To become more involved in Feed the Future, please visit www.feedthefuture.gov and click on "Get Involved."

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MEET THE LEADERSHIP

As we search for the Global Hunger and Food Security Coordinator, the U.S. effort is being led by two deputy coordinators: one responsible for diplomacy and the other for development. The Deputy Coordinators are responsible for implementing FTF, including ensuring that all relevant United States government agencies and departments are engaged in the process.

Ambassador Patricia M. Haslach, Deputy Coordinator for Diplomacy, and Ambassador William J. Garvelink, Deputy Coordinator for Development, began in their roles in late May 2010.

Ambassador Haslach is responsible for donor coordination, initiative operations and outcomes, and engagement with bilateral and multilateral partners and with International Organizations. Ambassador Garvelink is responsible for implementation of Feed the Future in developing countries and for U.S. government oversight of country-planning.

William J. Garvelink Deputy Coordinator for Development



Ambassador Garvelink is a 31-year veteran of USAID who most recently served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Before joining the Agency for International Development (AID) in 1979, Ambassador Garvelink was a professional staff member

of the Subcommittee on International Organizations, Committee on Foreign Affairs, of the U.S. House of Representatives. During his AID career he served as the management auditor in the Office of the Inspector General; was assistant coordinator for African assistance; assistant program officer and the deputy program officer in Bolivia; deputy director of the Office of African Refugee Affairs; assistant director for disaster response; deputy director, Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA); mission director of USAID/Eritrea; and Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator in the Bureau of Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance.

Prior to his work in OFDA, Ambassador Garvelink served for two years in the Department of State's Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM) with responsibilities for southern Africa. Mr. Garvelink is a member of the Senior Foreign Service with the rank of Minister Counselor.

Patricia M. Haslach Deputy Coordinator for Diplomacy



Ambassador Haslach brings with her a long career dealing with development assistance and food security and agricultural issues. Prior to her current position, she served as Assistant Chief of Mission for Assistance Transition at the U.S. Embassy, Baghdad, Iraq.

She also served as the Director, Office for Afghanistan, responsible for overseeing a multi-billion-dollar reconstruction program from Afghanistan from 2002-2004. From 2007-2009, Ambassador Haslach served as Ambassador to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (APEC) and headed the Friends of the Chair Group for food security.

She began her career with the federal government at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, first with the Economic Research Service (ERS) and then with the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), working on U.S. food assistance and export credit programs for Africa and Latin America and trade policy issues with the European Union. She also served as regional Agricultural Attache in New Delhi, India from 1987 to 1990, responsible for food aid programs in India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, and followed that assignment with a posting to the U.S. Mission to the European Union managing assistance to the Group of 24 countries.

FEED THE FUTURE NEWS

FTF Guide Outlines U.S. Strategy for Food Security

On May 20, 2010, the [Feed the Future \(FTF\) Guide](#) was released at a Symposium on Global Agriculture and Food Security in Washington, DC hosted by the [Chicago Council on Global Affairs](#) as part of the [Global Agricultural Development Initiative](#). The FTF Guide describes the strategic approach and implementation structures of the initiative.



President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf
Credit: Ken White/State Dept.

USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah, who introduced the FTF Guide in a [morning keynote](#), remarked, “we know agricultural development is a springboard for broader economic development and we know food security is the foundation for peace and opportunity, and therefore, our own national security.” Cheryl Mills, Counselor and Chief of Staff to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, participated in a panel discussion at the event and noted in the [DipNote blog](#) that, “We will work through partnerships with countries vulnerable to food insecurity and most committed to creating rigorous investment plans which will strengthen the entire agricultural chain -- from the lab, to the farm, to the market, to the table.” Secretary of Agriculture Thomas Vilsack presented a [luncheon keynote](#) and explained that, “in the longer term, we need a comprehensive approach focused on developing sustainable solutions to eliminate food insecurity.”

In addition to these speakers, President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf of Liberia and [Namanga Ngongi](#), president of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa, gave keynote addresses. Catherine Bertini, former executive director of the UN World Food Program, and Dan Glickman, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, moderated panel discussions. The symposium was attended by approximately 500 representatives from the Administration, Congress, non-governmental organizations, private sector, and other international organizations.

Government of Bangladesh leads Food Security Investment Forum

On May 26 and 27, 2010, the Government of Bangladesh, led by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, hosted a Food Security Investment Forum in Dhaka that brought together government officials, donors, and stakeholders to support the Government of Bangladesh in developing an agriculture and food security investment plan that reflects their needs, priorities, and development strategies. The high-level meeting generated significant momentum in Bangladesh on the issue of food security, both within the government and among development partners. USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah gave [remarks](#) in the opening of the meeting and, speaking on behalf of the U.S. government, stated that, “We support Bangladesh and all its partners in developing its food security investment program, and believe your planning process demonstrates two key indicators of success: a strong commitment from the highest levels of government to creating a vibrant market-oriented, agricultural economy and the involvement of all stakeholders, including civil society and private sector partners. These two attributes are critical to sustaining success over the long term.”



The U.K.'s Department for International Development (DFID), the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and other international development organizations sent representatives from their headquarters. In addition to Prime Minister Hasina and Administrator Shah, four ministers from the Government of Bangladesh, the U.S. Ambassador to Bangladesh, James Moriarty, and distinguished speakers such as Former Director General of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) John Mellor and Harvard Professor Peter Timmer, spoke at the Forum. During his visit to Bangladesh, Administrator Shah and an interagency delegation from the U.S. met with several development partners, including David Nabarro, UN Special Representative for Food Security and Nutrition, Hiroyuki Konuma, Assistant Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, and Michael Anderson, Director General for Policy and Global Issues at DFID, among many others.

More than 500 representatives from civil society, private sector, NGOs, think tanks and academia participated in forum sessions that highlighted the comprehensive approach of the government. Investment priorities included crop agricultural

production, development of fisheries and livestock, adaptation to climate change, increasing agricultural marketing and value chain, improved safety nets programs, and nutrition as well as cross cutting issues such as gender and governance. Additional information on these topics can be found in the [conference papers](#) prepared in advance of the meeting.

The U.S. government's delegation encouraged the Government of Bangladesh to take the next steps to develop a technically sound, prioritized and fully-costed investment plan. After the meeting, development partners and the Government of Bangladesh endorsed a joint statement that calls for the further development and finalization of a food security investment plan and for its coordinated and prioritized implementation. "This initiative is a new way of working that will allow the international community to follow the country's leadership and plans and help reduce hunger and poverty," Administrator Shah, describing the Feed the Future approach.

Haitian National Agriculture Investment Plan Endorsed at High-Level Meeting



The Government of Haiti, with the support of the United States and other countries, held a high-level stakeholder meeting on the margins of the Haiti Summit on June 2, 2010, in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic. Prime Minister of Haiti, Jean-Max Bellerive, and Minister of Agriculture of the Dominican Republic, Salvador Jiménez, opened the meeting. Haitian Minister of Agriculture, Joanas Gué, presented the Haitian National Agriculture Investment Plan to a broad group of development partners, including Haitian private sector and civil society representatives. Counselor and Chief of Staff to the Secretary of State, Cheryl Mills, led the U.S. interagency delegation to the meeting, which included high-level participation from Brazil, Canada, France, and Spain as well as FAO, WFP, Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA),

Inter-American Development Bank, World Bank, and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). All of these development partners endorsed the Government of Haiti's investment plan and formalized their endorsement through a joint statement, whereby they also agreed to align their investments and make pledges, ideally by September 1, 2010. In endorsing the joint statement, the Haitian government committed to making the necessary efforts to strengthen support from its national budget devoted to agriculture and food security.

In her remarks, Counselor Mills emphasized the importance of stakeholder consultation and a focus on results: "I would like to emphasize two critical components of the commitment that we are making today by endorsing Haiti's agricultural investment plan. First, as we support the Government of Haiti in implementing the plan, we must be committed to seek an inclusive process for all – transparently evaluating our collective progress. This includes continued consultation with the private sector, civil society and smallholder farmers to ensure that we are responsive to key stakeholders. Second, we must focus on results – on the tangible changes in the lives of people. This can be done most effectively through the development of a robust monitoring and evaluation framework that is shared across all investments to measure the impact of our collective investments, and to gauge what is going right and wrong so that we continually improve our understanding, and therefore, our programming and our impact."

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FEED THE FUTURE PROGRESS

FTF Supports Country-Ownership

Through Feed the Future, the U.S. will expand its commitment to aligning investments with partner country priorities and increasing its own transparency and accountability. As such, the U.S. will support country governments in developing multi-year agriculture and food security investment plans in consultation with development partners and stakeholders. Several countries have already made great progress in the development of an investment plan. These plans will undergo (in some cases, already have undergone) technical review at the country and regional level with donors and stakeholders, including the U.S.



Credit: Louis Stippel

As noted [above](#), the governments of Bangladesh and Haiti recently hosted high-level meetings to showcase their progress towards the development of their country investment plans. In December 2009, Rwanda hosted a high-level meeting to review its investment plan under the auspices of the [Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Program](#) (CAADP), a program of the [African Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development](#) (AU/NePAD). Donors, including the U.S., have aligned behind the plan and pledged funds to support it. To learn more about the Rwanda process, see the [FTF Case Study on Country-Ownership](#).



Credit: Jose Cendon / UN FAO / AFP

On June 14-17, the [Economic Community of West African States](#) (ECOWAS) will host a Business Meeting including the review of investments plans developed in alignment with CAADP. At the meeting, investment plans developed by several West African countries will be reviewed by donors, development partners, and technical experts. President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal, Administrator Shah, Deputy Coordinators Haslach and Garvelink, Spanish Secretary of State for International Cooperation Soraya Rodriguez Ramos, and high-level officials from France, the European Commission, the United Kingdom, the UN, African Development Bank, World Bank, and IFAD will participate in the meetings, which will also include private sector and civil society panels. More information on these meetings will be provided in the next issue of the FTF E-Newsletter.

The U.S. is also strategically planning its support behind country-led planning. USAID Missions working in close coordination with U.S. Embassies in potential FTF Focus Countries have developed Food Security Implementation Plans that describe the preliminary steps to be taken by the U.S. government in FY 2010 to lay the groundwork for a country-led food security strategy. These one-year Implementation Plans incorporate development activities and a diplomatic strategy for food security. The plans were developed with feedback from interagency panels

and, as they are finalized and edited for public release, will be made available through a link from www.feedthefuture.gov. The U.S. is also working to develop strategic, multi-year U.S. assistance strategies in several focus countries.

Food Security Trust Fund Leverages Support from Diverse Set of Donors

The Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP) is a multi-donor trust fund designed to provide an additional source of financing to support country-led efforts to improve food security and strengthen agricultural sectors in the poorest countries. Leveraging the technical capacity of a number of multilateral development institutions, the fund will finance medium to long-term elements of agricultural development strategies in eligible countries. On April 22, 2010, the United States, Canada, Spain, South Korea and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation pledged \$880 million to the fund at a launch event at the U.S. Treasury Department.

On May 20, the GAFSP Steering Committee issued an open call for proposals to countries eligible for financing and set two closing dates - June 14 and October 1, 2010. Currently available resources in the GAFSP Trust Fund for 2010 are approximately \$350 million, to be allocated to seven to ten proposals. The two-date structure will allow those countries which are more advanced in the development of their country investment plans to rapidly access the fund's financial resources, while also providing less advanced countries more time to complete their investment plans. For additional information on the fund and the call for the proposals, please visit the [GAFSP website](#).



Research Strategy Supports Innovation

Investment in agricultural research today drives the growth and resilience of the food supply for tomorrow. The Feed the Future interagency team, in coordination with U.S. research agencies, is developing a global agricultural research agenda which addresses fundamental constraints to global food security, including pests, diseases and climate in major food crops and

livestock. The strategy focuses on increasing agricultural productivity and improving soil, water and nutrient use efficiency. The major research thrusts will include: 1) advancing the yield frontier; 2) transforming key agricultural systems; and 3) enhancing diet quality and food safety. Global research themes will be integrated at the country and regional level by combining technology and management practices with natural resources, social and policy research and analysis with a clear focus on boosting producer productivity. Country-led investments in applied research, extension, capacity building, value chains and policy will help ensure that research impacts reach their full potential.



Credit: Sonia Dominguez / USAID

As the FTF research agenda develops, U.S. research agencies are already realigning and refocusing their internal programs to better meet the needs of small-scale agricultural producers. For example, over the last two years USDA has invested in research programs with dual functions – to enhance U.S. agricultural productivity as well as promote global food security. It has also created a new food security research unit in the Economic Research Service and increased critical

additional research funding on environmental stress tolerant crops and livestock. USAID has worked with global partners to refocus efforts of the [Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research](#) (CGIAR), a global alliance of international agricultural and natural resource research centers, to be more strategically focused on productivity growth through new research programs on rice, wheat, maize, cassava, banana, livestock and other components of tropical and sub-tropical systems.

Additional information on the FTF research agenda will be announced at the [World Food Prize](#) Announcement Ceremony on June 16, 2010 in Washington, DC.

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INSIGHTS FROM THE FIELD

The “Miracle Pipe” Helps Bangladesh’s Rice Farmers Conserve

The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), one of the largest non-profit agricultural research centers in Asia is distributing a highly effective, yet simple, technology which has enabled rice farmers to reduce water consumption and related energy costs by 30%. The Alternate Wetting and Drying Technology (AWDT) enables farmers to determine when to irrigate their fields. Some farmers refer to this as the “miracle pipe” because of the significant reductions in water consumption and energy costs it has produced.

USAID, in partnership with the [World Bank](#), the [Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation](#), and the [International Fertilizer Development Center](#) (IFDC) is now helping introduce and distribute the pipe through its support of the Cereal Systems Initiative of South Asia (CSISA). The pipe is simply a yellow plastic PVC pipe punctured with about 60 holes. The pipe is placed 15cm into the ground before fields are irrigated. Farmer observes the water level in the pipe after irrigation, and when the level drops to a certain level, the farmer knows to irrigate the field again. IRRI has provided approximately 20,000 farmers with the pipes at a cost to the farmer of 20 cents each.



Credit: © iStockphoto.com / Leslie Morris

Feed the Future will support the development and dissemination of innovative technologies such as the “miracle pipe” that impact smallholder farmers in the developing world.

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MEET THE FTF TEAM

In each issue of the FTF E-Newsletter, we will profile a different member of the interagency FTF team. This week, meet Kristen Penn who works at the State Department.



Kristen Penn is leading the interagency effort to develop a robust monitoring and evaluation system to track progress and enhance accountability of the U.S. and its development partners' efforts. She and her interagency team have developed the FTF Results Framework (in the [FTF Guide](#)) to outline the goal of sustainably reducing poverty and hunger and define the key objectives and indicators of inclusive agricultural sector growth and improved nutritional status.

Before joining the FTF team, Kristin was Senior Director for Agriculture and Rural Economic Programs for the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) where her core responsibilities included the management of investments in food and agriculture—and ranged from initial compact development with eligible countries to program development and implementation. For more than 20 years, Kristen has worked directly with agricultural producers, marketing firms and development institutions in more than 100 countries worldwide.

Before joining MCC, Ms. Penn was Director of Global Programs and Services for the International Development Division of Land O'Lakes, Inc.—one of the nation's largest agricultural cooperatives. Kristin studied at the University of Minnesota in agriculture education, extension and international programming. She was an education and extension Peace Corps Volunteer in Zaire (1985-87) and conducted research as a Rotary Scholar in Tanzania.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

June 14-17 (Dakar, Senegal) [ECOWAS Business Meeting](#)

June 15 (London, UK) [Innovation, Sustainability, Development: A New Manifesto](#)

June 16 (Washington, DC) [World Food Prize Announcement Ceremony](#)

June 29 (Copenhagen, Denmark) [Sustainable Food Systems – Food for All Forever](#)

July 7-9 (Manila, Philippines) [Investment Forum for Food Security in Asia and the Pacific](#)



Credit: Noel Celis / AFP

Please [email our team](#) with other events for inclusion in this section of the newsletter.

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